

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 00042 051041Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 DODE-00 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-07 /043 W
-----051043Z 077252 /21
P 050850Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9658

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EXCON

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ESTC NL UR
SUBJECT: UNLICENSED EXPORT OF SEISMOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT TO USSR

REF: 76 THE HAGUE 6908

1. MCCLEAN CARGO SPECIALISTS AT SCHIPHOL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT IT CONTACTED KLM JAN 3 ON INSTRUCTIONS OF PARENT FIRM TO ORDER RETURN OF SUBJECT SHIPMENT TO US. KLM TOLD MCCLEAN THAT IT HAD FORWARDED SHIPMENT TO MOSCOW DEC 25 VIA KL/SU 702. MCCLEAN CLAIMS NO KNOWLEDGE OF INVOLVEMENT IN ACTION HAD HAS, AT EMBASSY SUGGESTION, OBTAINED LETTER FROM KLM SAYING THAT THEY (KLM) FORWARDED SHIPMENT "ERRONEOUSLY."

2. EMBASSY CONTACTED DUTCH EXCON AUTHORITIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. THEY REPORT THAT SHIPMENT WAS SET ASIDE IN KLM WAREHOUSE AT INSTRUCTIONS OF DUTCH CUSTOMS (APPARENTLY NORMAL PROCEDURE) AND ENTERED IN KLM COMPUTER AS "GOODS UNDER CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION, NOT TO BE MOVED." CUSTOMS DID NOT RELEASE GOODS, BUT SHIPMENT VIA KL/SU 702 DECEMBER 25 HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. DUTCH AUTHORITIES EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT MCCLEAN STORY, NOTING THAT KLM ROUTINELY NOTIFIES SHIPPERS OF MOVEMENT OF GOODS WITHIN 24 HOURS, WHILE MCCLEAN CLAIMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO HAVE FIRST LEARNED OF SHIPMENT JAN 3. DUTCH CUSTOMS INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE IS NOW INVESTIGATING SHIPMENT.

3. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED KLM OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR SHIPMENT. IN TELEPHONE INTERVIEW HE SAID THAT KLM EMPLOYEE HAD NOTICED SHIPMENT IN STORAGE ON 25 DECEMBER AND ASSUMED FROM MARKINGS IT HAS BEEN "SHORT-LOADED." WITHOUT CHECKING

STATUS OF SHIPMENT IN COMPUTER, HE PREPARED DUMMY DOCUMENTATION AND LOADED IT ON FIRST AVAILABLE FLIGHT. KLM ITSELF DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE KNOWINGLY ACTED IN VIOLATION OF EXCON AND DUTCH CUSTOMS REGULATIONS. KLM HAS AGREED TO RETURN SHIPMENT TO SCHIPHOL IN UNLIKELY EVENT IT IS STILL UNDER KLM CONTROL.

4. WE WILL REPORT OUTCOME OF DUTCH CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION WHEN AVAILABLE, BUT WE NOTE THAT CUSTOMS DOES NOT ORDINARILY REVEAL SUCH INFORMATION UNLESS IT FINDS GROUNDS FOR PROSECUTION UNDER DUTCH LAW. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED ABOUT US DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS CASE SO THAT WE CAN COORDINATE WITH DUTCH CUSTOMS IF NECESSARY.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, SEISMOLOGY, EXPORT LICENSES, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977THEHA00042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770004-0165
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770177/aaaacpic.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c77db8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 THE HAGUE 6908
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3655766
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNLICENSED EXPORT OF SEISMOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT TO USSR
TAGS: ESTC, NL, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c77db8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009